JS 44 (Rev. 06/17)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

(a) PLAINTIFFS Meredith Gill 1235 Colonial Avenue Roslyn, PA 19001 (b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Montgomery (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				DEFENDANTS Abington Memorial 1200 Old York Roa Abington, PA 1900	ad				
				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Montgomery (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.					
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number) Graham F. Baird, Law Office of Eric A. Shore 2 Penn Center, 1500 JFK Blvd, Suite 1240, Philadelphia, PA 1910 267-546-0131				Attorneys (If Known)	225	IN E.D.M Newtown USTER, PA	ROAD	Ц	5.481 1285
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)				TIZENSHIP OF P	RINCIPA	L PARTIES			
☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff				(For Diversity Cases Only) PT en of This State		Incorporated or Pri		or Defende PTF	ant) DEF 4
☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)				2 🗆 2	Incorporated and P of Business In A		5	□ 5
				en or Subject of a reign Country	3 🗆 3	Foreign Nation		□ 6	1 6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT			FC	Click here for: Nature of Suit Code Descriptions FORFEITURE/PENALTY BANKRUPTCY OTHER STATUTE					
110 Insurance 120 Marine 130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment 151 Medicare Act 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits 160 Stockholders' Suits 190 Other Contract 195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise REAL PROPERTY 210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment 240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability 290 All Other Real Property	□ 315 Airplane Product Liability □ 320 Assault, Libel & Slander □ 330 Federal Employers' Liability □ 340 Marine □ 345 Marine Product Liability □ 350 Motor Vehicle □ 355 Motor Vehicle □ Product Liability □ 360 Other Personal Injury □ 362 Personal Injury Medical Malpractice CIVIL RIGHTS □ 440 Other Civil Rights □ 441 Housing/ Accommodations □ 445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment □ 446 Amer. w/Disabilities - Other □ 448 Education	PERSONAL INJURY J 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability J 367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability J 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability PERSONAL PROPERT J 370 Other Fraud J 371 Truth in Lending J 380 Other Personal Property Damage Product Liability PRISONER PETITIONS Habeas Corpus: J 463 Alien Detainee J 510 Motions to Vacate Sentence J 530 General J 535 Death Penalty Other:	7	CABOR DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROP	422 Appe 423 With 28 U PROPEI 820 Copy 830 Paten New 840 Trade SOCIAL 861 HIA 862 Black 863 DIW 864 SSID 865 RSI (FEDER/ 870 Taxe or Do 871 IRS—26 U	SC 157 RTY RIGHTS rights at at - Abbreviated Drug Application emark SECURITY (1395ff) at Lung (923) C/DIWW (405(g)) Title XVI 405(g)) AL TAX SUITS s (U.S. Plaintiff efendant)	375 False CI 376 Qui Tan 3729(a) 400 State Re 410 Antitrus 430 Banks an 450 Commer 460 Deporta 470 Rackete Corrupt 480 Consum 490 Cable/Sa 850 Securitic Exchan 890 Other St 891 Agricult 893 Environ 895 Freedon Act 896 Arbitrati 899 Adminis Act/Rev.	aims Act in (31 USC) apportion t ind Bankin ree tion er Influenc Organizat er Credit at TV ess/Comme ge atutory Ac ural Acts mental Mai n of Inforn ion strative Pre- iew or Ap Decision tionality of	ment g ced and ions odities/ ctions tters mation occdure peal of
	moved from	opellate Court	Reop	(specify)	r District	6 Multidistr Litigation Transfer	2	Multidis Litigatio Direct Fi	on -
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	12118 C A 88 121	01 et seq	filing (I	Do not cite jurisdictional stati	utes uniess di	versity):			
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT: CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.				EMANDS CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:					
VIII. RELATED CASI	E(S) (See instructions):	UDGE		150,000.00		T NUMBER	X Yes	□No	
DATE 10/19/17		SIGNITURE OF ATTO	RNEYC	OF RECORD					
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIPT # AM	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE		MAG. JUD	GE		

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

CASE MANAGEMENT TRACK DESIGNATION FORM

Meredith Gill		:	CIVIL ACTION								
Moington memoria	a Hospital	; ; ;	NO.								
In accordance with the Civil Justice Expense and Delay Reduction Plan of this court, counsel for plaintiff shall complete a Case Management Track Designation Form in all civil cases at the time of filing the complaint and serve a copy on all defendants. (See § 1:03 of the plan set forth on the reverse side of this form.) In the event that a defendant does not agree with the plaintiff regarding said designation, that defendant shall, with its first appearance, submit to the clerk of court and serve on the plaintiff and all other parties, a Case Management Track Designation Form specifying the track to which that defendant believes the case should be assigned.											
SELECT ONE OF THE FO	LLOWING CA	SE MANAGEM	ENT TRACKS:								
(a) Habeas Corpus – Cases brought under 28 U.S.C. § 2241 through § 2255.											
(b) Social Security – Cases requesting review of a decision of the Secretary of Health and Human Services denying plaintiff Social Security Benefits.											
(c) Arbitration – Cases required to be designated for arbitration under Local Civil Rule 53.2.											
(d) Asbestos – Cases involving claims for personal injury or property damage from exposure to asbestos.											
(e) Special Management – Cases that do not fall into tracks (a) through (d) that are commonly referred to as complex and that need special or intense management by the court. (See reverse side of this form for a detailed explanation of special management cases.)											
(f) Standard Management – Cases that do not fall into any one of the other tracks.											
10/19/17 Date		F. Baird	meredith Gill	1							
267-546-0131 215-944-6124 gahanb@ericsho											
Telephone	FAX Numb	oer	E-Mail Address								

(Civ. 660) 10/02

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA — DESIGNATION FORM to be used by counsel to indicate the category of the case for the purpose of assignment to appropriate calendar. Address of Plaintiff: 1235 Calonial ave, Ruslyn PA 1900) Address of Defendant: 1200 Old YUK Rd, Abington PA old YUR Rd, 1200 Abination PA 19001 Place of Accident, Incident or Transaction: (Use Reverse Side For Additional Space) Does this civil action involve a nongovernmental corporate party with any parent corporation and any publicly held corporation owning 10% or more of its stock? Yes□ No□ (Attach two copies of the Disclosure Statement Form in accordance with Fed.R.Civ.P. 7.1(a)) Does this case involve multidistrict litigation possibilities? Yes RELATED CASE, IF ANY: Case Number: Date Terminated: Civil cases are deemed related when yes is answered to any of the following questions: 1. Is this case related to property included in an earlier numbered suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? 2. Does this case involve the same issue of fact or grow out of the same transaction as a prior suit pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court? Yes□ No 3. Does this case involve the validity or infringement of a patent already in suit or any earlier numbered case pending or within one year previously Yes□ terminated action in this court? No 4. Is this case a second or successive habeas corpus, social security appeal, or pro se civil rights case filed by the same individual? No Yes□ CIVIL: (Place / in ONE CATEGORY ONLY) A. Federal Question Cases: B. Diversity Jurisdiction Cases: 1.

Indemnity Contract, Marine Contract, and All Other Contracts 1.

Insurance Contract and Other Contracts 2 D FELA 2.

Airplane Personal Injury 3. D Jones Act-Personal Injury 3.

Assault, Defamation 4. □ Antitrust 4.

Marine Personal Injury 5. Patent 5. D Motor Vehicle Personal Injury 6. Labor-Management Relations 6. □ Other Personal Injury (Please specify) 7. Civil Rights 7. D Products Liability 8.

Habeas Corpus 8. Products Liability - Asbestos 9. □ Securities Act(s) Cases 9. □ All other Diversity Cases 10. □ Social Security Review Cases (Please specify) 11. □ All other Federal Question Cases (Please specify) ARBITRATION CERTIFICATION (Check Appropriate Category) Graham F. Build , counsel of record do hereby certify: Pursuant to Local Civil Rule 53.2, Section 3(c)(2), that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the damages recoverable in this civil action case exceed the sum of \$150,000.00 exclusive of interest and costs; Relief other than monetary damages is sought. DATE: 10/19/17 NOTE: A trial de novo will be a trial by jury only if there has been compliance with F.R.C.P. 38.

I certify that, to my knowledge, the within case is not related to any case now pending or within one year previously terminated action in this court

except as noted above.

DATE: W/19/17

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

MEREDITH GILL 1235 Colonial Avenue Roslyn, PA 19001

JURY DEMANDED

Plaintiff,

v.

No.

ABINGTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL 1200 Old York Road

Abington, PA 19001

And

ABINGTON HEALTH—ARIA HEALTH

SYSTEM

1200 Old York Road Abington, PA 19001

And

ABINGTON HEALTH—ARIA HEALTH

SYSTEM

225 Newtown Road Warminster, PA 18974

Defendants

CIVIL ACTION COMPLAINT

I. Parties and Reasons for Jurisdiction.

- 1. Plaintiff, MEREDITH GILL (hereinafter "Ms. Gill") is an adult individual residing at the above address.
- 2. Defendant, ABINGTON MEMORIAL HOSPITAL is a non-promit corporation organized by and operating under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and having a

principal place of business at the above captioned address. Defendant is a hospital and medical care provider.

- 3. Defendant, ABINGTON HEALTH—ARIA HEALTH SYSTEM is a business corporation organized by and operating under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and having a principal place of business at the above captioned address(es). Defendant ABINGTON HEALTH—ARIA HEALTH SYSTEM, owns, operates, manages, or is otherwise affiliated with ABINGTON MEMORIAL HOPITAL.
- 4. At all times material hereto, Defendants are private entities that owns, leases, manages and/or operates a place of public accommodation, as that term is defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- 5. The aforementioned Defendants were acting together, in concert and for the benefit of each other at the time of the incident giving rise to the Plaintiff's civil action complaint.
- 6. This action is instituted pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act.
 - 7. Jurisdiction is conferred by 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343.
- 8. Supplemental jurisdiction over the Plaintiff's state law claim is conferred pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367.
- 9. Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(1) and (b)(2), venue is properly laid in this district because Defendants conduct business in this district, and because a substantial part of the acts and/or omissions giving rise to the claims set forth herein occurred in this judicial district. Plaintiff was at the Defendants' location at the time in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania at the time of Defendants' conduct, as set forth herein.

II. Operative Facts.

- 10. On or about May 6, 2017, Plaintiff's mother, Mary Gill, was admitted to Defendants' Behavioral Health Unit at the Abington Memorial Hospital.
- 11. Mary Gill was hospitalized by Defendant after sustaining a mental breakdown leading to a suicide attempt.
- 12. On May 11, 2017, Plaintiff, Meredith Gill participated in a conference call with her mother (Mary), other family members and a social worker employed by Defendants.
- 13. At that time, on May 11th, Mary Gill was still hospitalized at Abington Memorial Hospital by the Defendants.
- 14. During the May 11, 2017 conference call, Mary agreed that it was time for her to have visitors for the first time following her suicide attempt and hospitalization and asked her daughter, the Plaintiff, to come visit.
- 15. Plaintiff, Meredith Gill is quadriplegic and uses a motorized powered wheelchair to move following a serious car accident she sustained some years ago.
 - 16. Plaintiff also has a trained service dog named "Tom."
- 17. Tom assists Plaintiff in many of her day to day tasks, such, as opening and closing doors and cabinets, retrieving items and tools for Plaintiff to use and also provides emotional support and freedom from anxiety.
- 18. Mary Gill informed Defendants' social worker and other staff of Plaintiff's need to bring Tom along as an accommodation for her aforementioned disabilities.
- 19. Mary Gill explained to Defendants' social worker that Tom is permitted to enter Defendants' hospital subject to the strictures of the ADA.

- 20. At the time of the phone call, Defendants' social worker, assigned to care for Mary Gill informed Mary that Tom was probably not allowed to enter the Behavioral Health Unit and advised that if Plaintiff wanted to visit her mother, Plaintiff was prohibited from bringing Tom along.
- 21. However, Defendants' social worker advised that she would in fact, check the Defendants' policy on service dogs to verify her belief.
- 22. On May 11, 2017, Defendants' social worker informed Mary that Tom is permitted, subject to the ADA and Abington Hospital's own policy on service dogs to enter the hospital and assist the Plaintiff, consistent with his training.
 - 23. On May 12, 2017, Meredith arrived with her brother and her service dog, Tom.
- 24. Immediately upon entering Defendants' Behavioral Health Unit, Defendants' staff members escorted the family and Tom to an isolation room, instead of the family visiting room in the Behavioral Health Unit.
- 25. Defendants' staff insisted that the family was required to remain in the isolation room due to Tom's presence.
- 26. Defendants' staff also insisted that several nurses stay with the family in the isolation room because admitted behavioral health patients were prohibited from meeting in complete privacy with their families or visitors.
- 27. The cramped nature of the isolation room and the presence of Defendants' nurses created a problematic awkward setting under the circumstances.
- 28. Plaintiff calmly and reasonably explained that the isolation requirement was an unfair restriction and violated the Americans with Disabilities Act.

- 29. Immediately, Defendants' charge nurse advised Plaintiff that she had two (2) choices, as follows: 1) stay in the isolation room while she meets with her mother for the first time following her mental breakdown and suicide attempt with nurses present; or 2) leave Defendants' hospital with Tom.
- 30. Given the unfair and illegal restriction foisted upon her by Defendants' staff, Plaintiff chose to leave, after once again, calmly explaining that Defendants' conduct was violative of the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- 31. Two days later on Mother's Day, 2017, Plaintiff, to her great detriment, returned to Abington Hospital without her service dog, Tom to avoid further violation of her civil rights.
- 32. Plaintiff also needed to see and speak with her mother after the traumatic experience and could not afford to wait for Defendants to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- 33. On Mothers' Day, 2017, without Tom accompanying her, Plaintiff was permitted in the family area to meet with her mother.
- 34. By refusing Ms. Gill access to the Behavioral Health Unit with Tom, Defendants violated the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act.
- 35. Defendants failed to reasonably accommodate Plaintiff by the denial of access due to her service dog.
- 36. Upon information and belief, Defendants' conduct not only violated the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, but also, Abington Memorial Hospital's own policies with respect to service animals within the confines of the property.

37. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct in refusing Plaintiff access to the hospital, Plaintiff sustained extreme emotional distress, humiliation, pain and suffering, economic loss, and other damages as set forth below.

III. Causes of Action.

COUNT I VIOLATION OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (42 U.S.C.A. §§ 12101, et seq)

- 38. Plaintiff incorporates paragraphs 1-37 as if fully set forth at length herein.
- 39. At set forth above, Plaintiff is disabled as contemplated by the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- 40 At all times material hereto, Defendants are owning, leasing, managing or operating a public accommodation as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- 41. As set forth above, Defendants interfered and wrongfully denied the Palintiff the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages and accommodations of Defendants' premises, in violation of Title III, § 302 of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12182, and pursuant to federal regulations including but not limited to 28 CFR 36.104 and 36.301.
- 42. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Plaintiff is entitled to the remedies and procedures set forth in §204(a) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. § 2000(a) -3 (a)) as Plaintiff is being subjected to discrimination on the basis of her disability in violation of this title.
- 43. Given the proximity of Plaintiff's home to Abington Hospital, Plaintiff reasonably expects that she and Tom will be expected, in the future, to use the services and facilities of Abington Hospital.

- 44. Plaintiff seeks a specific prohibition against Defendant maintaining and enforcing their discriminatory policy towards disabled persons who are accompanied by service dogs, as described above.
- 45. Plaintiff has reasonable grounds to expect she will be subjected to such discrimination each time that she may attempt to patronize Defendants' hospital.
- 46. Plaintiff intends to return to this public accommodation but may not be able to do so until Defendants cease their discriminatory practices.
- 47. As a proximate result of Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff sustained significant damages, including but not limited to: great economic loss, emotional distress, mental anguish, humiliation, pain and suffering, consequential damages.
- 48. As a result of the conduct of Defendants' owners/management, Plaintiff hereby demands punitive damages.
- 49. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §2000e-3(a), et seq Plaintiff demands attorneys fees and court costs.

COUNT II PENNSYLVANIA HUMAN RELATIONS ACT 43 Pa.C.S.A. §951, et seq.

- 50. Plaintiff incorporates paragraphs 1-49 as if fully set forth at length herein.
- 51. As set forth above, Plaintiff has a disability and as such, is a member of a protected class.
- 52. As described above, Defendants denied Plaintiff full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages and accommodations of Defendants' premises, in violation of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act.

- 53. As such, Defendants have violated the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, 43 Pa.C.S.A. §951, et seq.
- 54. As a proximate result of Defendants' conduct, Plaintiff sustained significant damages, including but not limited to: economic loss, emotional distress, mental anguish, humiliation, pain and suffering, consequential damages and Plaintiff has also sustained work loss, loss of opportunity, and a permanent diminution of earning power and capacity and a claim is made therefore.
 - 55. Plaintiff demands attorneys' fees and court costs.

IV. Relief Requested.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, Meredith Gill demands judgment in her favor and against

Defendants, Abington Memorial Hospital, and Abington Health--Aria Health System jointly and

severally, in an amount in excess of \$150,000.00 together with:

A. Compensatory damages, including but not limited to, injury to reputation, mental and

emotional distress, pain and suffering

B. Punitive damages;

C. Attorneys fees and costs of suit;

D. Injunctive relief;

E. Interest, delay damages; and,

F. Any other further relief this Court deems just proper and equitable.

LAW OFFICES OF ERIC A. SHORE, P.C.

BY:

GRAHAM F. BAIRD, ESQUIRI

Two Penn Center

1500 JFK Boulevard, Suite 1240

Philadelphia, PA 19110

Attorney for Plaintiff, Meredith Gill

Date: October 18, 2017